



# Triple Tauk

**COMMUNICATION for the ROYAL ARCH in SOMERSET**

**Issue 7 - November  
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## HOLY ROYAL ARCH TRACING BOARD

In an attempt to standardise the design of Lodge-Tracing Boards the Duke of Sussex, the first Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England and the Past Grand Master of the Moderns, commissioned the artist John Harris to harmonise the tracing boards by creating an official model for each degree including the Holy Royal Arch, a degree within the Moderns that had been controlled by the Craft up until 1817. John Harris (1791-1873) came from an artistic family and was a painter of miniatures and an architectural draughtsman. He was initiated in 1818 and from the beginning was fascinated by the symbolic portrayals on tracing boards. He soon revolutionised the concept of the designs, which ultimately led to the standardisation of tracing boards throughout the constitution.

In 1823, somewhat business minded, Harris dedicated a set of his miniature tracing boards to the Duke of Sussex, the first Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England. This act naturally popularised his designs and his tracing boards soon became fashionable and in demand by the majority of Lodges. A true breakthrough came when an invitation by the Emulation Lodge of Improvement was made for artists to submit designs for tracing boards. John Harris designs won hands down and he never looked back. He produced a series of designs including Royal Arch, which are used in Masonic Ritual to help explain the symbolism and moral system of freemasonry. Harris's designs form the basis of many still used today.

By 1856 Harris became totally blind and in 1860 moved to the Masonic Benevolent Institution where he stayed until his death in 1873.

As different Masonic jurisdictions established standardised written degree rituals the creation of new tracing board designs began to decrease, those used today are representations of various designs produced by Bro John Harris between 1820 and 1850.



# NEW PROVINCIAL WEBSITE TAKES OFF

## LAUNCHED AT THE CALDERLEY CHAPTER IN SEPTEMBER

Past Deputy Grand Superintendent Robert E Moore officially launched the new Website on 5th September 2016. He has been the instigator and tireless organiser of both the two 15 year old previous sites and the new restructured one, its address is now:-

[www.somersetroyalarch.org](http://www.somersetroyalarch.org)

The first offering was a very simple site, simple but it served its purpose as our first presence on the internet, Bob held the only means of access. The second phase was designed by a Williton company, it allowed more information to be added and made more interesting reading, a small team had access but most of the work was carried out by E Comp Arthur Rowe.

Now a whole new approach is adopted, WebCreationUK based in Trowbridge were entrusted with its design, the key difference being a whole team of contributors—around 30—have access.

Each Chapter has its own Web page with diary and news items, the Chapter Liaison Officer being responsible. Training sessions have taken place so each Officer is up to speed with the handling of the site. Bob remains as overseer, the Provincial Liaison Officer is Adrian Halliwell.

It has the potential to be a great resource for the Province and each Chapter but will only be as good as a conscientious Liaison Officer makes it, if you don't like what you see, tell him, and if you do give him praise and also tell him.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Provincial Carols on 3rd December at 3pm at St John the Baptist Church, Glastonbury, Tea afterwards in the Glastonbury Masonic Hall and it's free!

### BANNER DEDICATION

11th January 2017 Provincial Team visit to Sincerity Chapter No.261, Taunton—Dedication of the four Principal Banners. The new Banners a joint purchase between the three Taunton Chapters and will therefore include an element of participation from the Chapter of St George No.3158 and Taunton Deane Chapter No.5221.

### ANNUAL PROVINCIAL WEEKEND

Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th February 2017 at the Durrant House Hotel, Bideford.

Organised by E Comp Keith Fisher, 25 The Grove, Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 2PA

**BOOK NOW—PLACES STILL AVAILABLE**



\*\*\*\*\*An early Royal Arch Apron\*\*\*\*\*

Initially operated as a private Chapter the Royal Arch was eventually accepted as an integral part of pure and antient Masonry.

It has always been regarded as a particularly colourful Order.





*What are the qualifications to be the Provincial Liaison Officer?* For Adrian Halliwell its to be multi-talented, thinker, thespian, thorough, empathetic and a thumping good bloke. Adrians life started

in Watford, well someone had to be born there, left Bushey Grammar school in 1965 and joined the Hydrographic Dept at Cricklewood, the department moved to Taunton, that's where the rest of his life was mapped out.

He had known Anne since he was 14, finally gave in and married in 1970 later having two children Anita and Stuart. He progressed through various post in UKHO to reach Head of Chart Branch Middle East, travelling and securing data for Admiralty Charts. He retired in 2006.

Adrian has faced many challenges, after retiring he was diagnosed with cancer, his wife Anne was run over by a car causing traumatic injuries. This did not change their outlook in life, the garden and seven grandchildren made sure of that. He was a very keen watercolour artist and accomplished cartoonist many being published.

The pantomime, which is life, took him to amateur stage performing from comedy to village idiot—is that another qualification for Liaison Officer?

His hydrographic and artistic experience brought him to preparing a table plan for a Masonic Ladies Festival, an invitation followed and Adrians Masonic career commenced. Initiated into Vivary Lodge No.8654 in March 1979 becoming Master in 1993. Since 1999 he is PProvGSwdB.

He was Exalted in Chapter of Fidelity & Sincerity No.1966 in February 1996 and MEZ in 2007. He is currently ProvDGDC, Prov Liaison Officer, DC in F & S, a member of Somerset First Principals, keeps an eye on



Chapter and Provincial pages on the new Somerset Royal Arch Website, and very occasionally sees his wife and family.

Adrian assisted with the production of the 1966 Ritual Book (Wellington Workings) and the 2nd Edition in 2014.

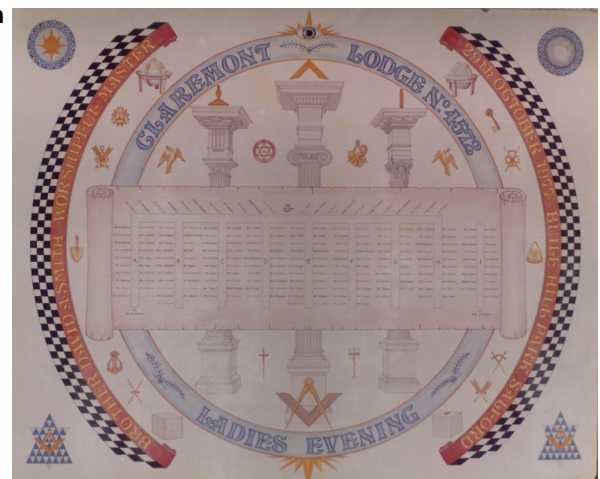
He once appeared in the TV Generation Game with his daughter Anita when she was only 17 and Bruce Forsyth was in charge, he may not have won on that occasion, but throughout all his activities **Didn't he do well !**

*Pictures: Top Left* Adrian when joining Masonry.

*Bottom Left:* Theatrical Delights.

*Bottom Right:* A Chart plan that says it all.

*Centre Right:* Adrian today proudly wearing his Provincial Liaison Officer Collar.





# Prince Augustus, Duke of Sussex (1773-1843)

## The sixth son of George III and Queen Charlotte.

Born 27th January 1773 at Buckingham House, he spent his early years at Kew sharing a house with his brothers, he was nominated Knight of the Garter in 1786 then travelled to the University of Gottingen to study..

He was prevented from joining the army due to ill health suffering badly from asthma, in 1832 he started to go blind but underwent what was then a new and dangerous cataract operation which saved his sight.

He was over six feet tall with a handsome face like his brother George IV, gifted musically with a fine singing voice ranging three octaves. He had a genuine interest in the arts and science amassing a huge library, singing birds and clocks. Charitable concerns were uppermost, he was Grand Master of Freemasonry in 1811, elected President of the Society of Arts in 1816 and the Royal Society in 1830, although later resigning from the latter complaining about the cost of Presidential dinners.

In 1792 he spent the winter in Rome for the warmer climate where he met and fell in love with Lady Augusta Murray and married in 1793 in a private ceremony without witnesses. As Lady Augusta was not of Royal birth the marriage was not permitted. The King had the marriages set aside in 1794, they had 2 children Augustus Frederick (1794) and Augusta Emma (1801).

They first lived in Berlin then London when they separated, Lady Augusta had to be restrained from using the title Duchess of Sussex and she lost custody of their 2 children.

After William IV became King, Augustus the son caused a scandal by trying to prove that his parents marriage was legitimate and claiming the right to inherit his fathers title. On 27th November 1801 Augustus was made Duke of Sussex with a parliamentary allowance of £12,000.

He held progressive political views in complete opposition to his father and supported the abolition of the slave trade, Catholic emancipation and political reform.

After the death of Lady Augusta in 1830, Augustus contracted a second illegal marriage to Lady Buggin the widowed daughter of the Earl of Arran, she became known as Lady Cecelia Underwood.



**Charitable concerns were uppermost, he became Grand Master of the Freemasons in 1811**

The Duke of Sussex died on 21st April 1843 at Kensington Palace from a skin infection sometimes known as St Anthony's Fire. He was buried in the public cemetery at Kensal Green, later Lady Cecilia was buried beside him.



The Grave of Augustus, Kensal Green,  
London

Freemasons Hall Great Queen  
Street, London

From *The Microcosm of London*  
(1808-10)

